

TAFT ASKS THOUSANDS

Has Bidden More than 3,000 to Wedding Anniversary.

LIST IS STILL GROWING

Reception Promises To Be Largest Invitation Event Ever Given at the White House.

Washington, June 12.—The reception which the President and Mrs. Taft will give on June 14, the twenty-fifth anniversary of their marriage, probably will be the most largely attended social affair ever given in the White House. More than three thousand invitations have been sent out, and each day the President is suggesting more names. The lowest estimate is that four thousand will be invited and that at least three thousand persons will attend.

The New Year's receptions have brought many more thousands than that to the White House, but those receptions are not by invitation, and the crowd merely shakes hands and departs. At the silver wedding celebration refreshments will be served, there will be dancing in the East Room and an "overflow" garden party in the White House grounds.

The guest list will include friends and acquaintances of the President and Mrs. Taft from all parts of the country. Nearly everybody in official life in Washington has been invited, and invitations have been sent to persons who have entertained the President on his trips throughout the country, to members of the Republican National Committee, to the official "notification" committee which informed the President of his nomination, to prominent clergymen of all denominations, to some well known editors and to hundreds of others.

The reception will begin at 3 o'clock and last for several hours. Mrs. Taft will not be present for the physicians still wish her to avoid exertion. Miss Helen Taft will stand by her father's side to receive the guests.

All the members of the family of the President and of Mrs. Taft, who was Miss Helen Herron, of Cincinnati, will be house guests during the celebration. "Aunt Della," Torrey, of Miltury, Mass., will be among the specially honored visitors.

This will be the third silver wedding celebration of a President of the United States and his wife. President and Mrs. Grant celebrated their twenty-fifth anniversary on August 12, 1877, at their cottage at Long Branch, and President and Mrs. Hayes held a levee at the White House on New Year's Eve, 1877, to celebrate twenty-five years of married life.

THE MERRY WHIRL' OPENS

Morton and Moore Head Summer Company at the Columbia.

Two large audiences attended the opening performances of "The Merry Whirl," a two-act summer show, at the Columbia Theatre yesterday. James C. Morton and Frank F. Moore head the large company which has been assembled for the production by the Gordon & North Amusement Company. In the first part they repeat their well known characterization of the Clock and Snowman. Their singing of "Play, Play, Play" and "The Evolution of Dress" was well received.

Miss Rita Redmond heads the feminine contingent. Her song hit was "When I Walk with You." Dan Roth wrote the book for the entertainment. Ed Ray supplied the lyrics and Leo Edwards composed most of the music. An indefinite engagement is announced.

BACK FROM DESERT OF SAHARA

Liebler & Co.'s Representatives Visited Scenes of New Play.

Hugh Ford and Edward Morange, stage director and scenic artist respectively for Liebler & Co., arrived yesterday on the steamship Minnetonka, after a trip into the Desert of Sahara, visiting the scenes of René Hichens' "The Garden of Allah," a dramatization of which is to be the first important Liebler & Co. production at the Century, formerly the New Theatre.

They also went to Berlin to obtain material for "The Affair in the Barracks," an adaptation from the German "Barrackenheit," made by C. M. S. McLellan, author of "Leah Kleschka." While in Paris they spent several days in consultation with Miss Simone, who is to begin her first American tour next fall.

ACTORS CHANGE OWN LAWS

Society Will Hereafter Pay Railway Fares of "Stranded" Members.

The Actors Society of America made several changes in its bylaws at a meeting held yesterday at No. 15 West 45th street. Thomas A. Wise, who has been president of the society for three years, presided. Fred Niblo, who was recently elected president, made a brief address, predicting a great future for the society, which now has eight hundred members.

GUSTAV H. SCHWAB, JR. TO WED.

Mrs. Frances Skidley Marden announced yesterday the engagement of her sister, Miss Alice Ruth Clark, daughter of Cyrus Clark, to Gustav H. Schwab, Jr., son of Gustav H. Schwab, formerly connected with the North German Lloyd Line. Since his graduation from Yale in 1902 young Mr. Schwab has been interested in the wool business of Gehring & Co., Jr., a member of the New York City club. No arrangement could be learned last night, no arrangement has been made for the wedding.

EX-GOV. J. PROCTOR KNOTT ILL.

(By Telegraph to The Tribune.) Lebanon, Ky., June 12.—Ex-Governor J. Proctor Knott is suffering from an attack of bronchial trouble, and the attending physician found a slight pneumonia. Dr. Knott, 76, was stricken with an attack of paralysis several weeks ago, the aged statesman is in a critical condition.

THE TRIBUNE FRESH AIR FUND.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.
Balances brought forward from season of 1910-11
John C. Cooper Company proportion of \$10,000 for the distribution of
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Henry Ashton Crosby, Jr., of New York,
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